

# The Preservation Post

## Historic Preservation Month - May 2005

Historic Preservation Week has been celebrated since 1971 to recognize grassroots preservation efforts around the country. The National Trust for Historic Preservation sponsors Preservation Week to raise public awareness for the importance of historic preservation in our communities. This year Preservation Week has been expanded into Historic Preservation Month. The theme for 2005 is "Restore America: Communities at a Crossroads" and calls on us to identify and preserve new preservation challenges while reflecting the vision, energy, and diversity of America itself. For more information about Preservation Week and the National Trust for Historic Preservation visit their website at: http://www.nationaltrust.org.

# **Historic Preservation at Fort Bragg**

The Fort Bragg Cultural Resources Management Program is responsible for identifying, documenting, and protecting the historic resources at Fort Bragg. There are 374 historic buildings and structures on Fort Bragg. All of these contribute to the history of Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and the United States. In addition, there are approximately 4000 documented archaeological sites within Fort Bragg's boundaries. The CRMP staff works hard to ensure these resources will be protected for the benefit of future generations.

Fort Bragg Cultural Resources Program

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Inside this issue:

Preservation Month

Historic Preservation at Fort Bragg

A New Discovery

Fort Bragg Trivia

Matching

## A New Discovery

In July 2004, CRMP discovered a building that ties Fort Bragg and the nation to an important part of their heritage. A relatively small building located east of Butner Road near the Pope Air Force Base gate has been for years the veterinarian surgery facility for Fort Bragg. However, a closer look into the building's past revealed that the building was



The building as it appears today.

originally constructed in 1936 as a mess hall for the Citizens Military Training Camp (CMTC).

The CMTC, a largely forgotten military program, occurred from 1919 to 1940 and provided about 30,000 young volunteers with four weeks of military training in summer camps each year. The camps were designed to develop citizens



sions.

both physically and morally through supervised athletics, and military drills and instruction. There were several of these camps scattered across the United States each with a specific form of training.

At Fort Bragg, men from age 17 to 31 were taught basic and field artillery training.

There were four courses with the first being a basic course and the last course preparing them to

be Officers in the Reserve Corps. After the completion of each course, they moved on to the next the following year. Those who completed four years of CMTC training became eligible for Reserve commis-

The mess hall was part of the CMTC encampment providing meals for the participants. The building is a T-shape building constructed of concrete block with a side-gable roof. Located next to the building, is another CMTC mess hall, but it has been altered over the years. Thus, the veterinarian surgery facility is the only building left on Fort Bragg that represents the Citizens Military Training Camp.



Military Training Exercise

#### **Fun and Games**

## Fort Bragg Trivia

(answers are on the back page)

- When was Fort Bragg established?
- Who was the first commander of Fort Bragg?
- What building was originally the Post hospital in the 1930s?



McFaydens Pond Documentary Postcard

### Matching

Match the architectural elements with their definitions.

Α.



Fanlight

- 1. A long vertical support that carries the weight of an structural element like a roof. \_\_\_\_
- 2. A semi-circular window over a door. \_\_\_
  - 3. The arrangement of brick or another building material in the form of a curve to span an opening. \_\_\_

B.



Arch

C.



Column

#### Fort Bragg Cultural Resources Program XVIII Airborne Corps & Fort Bragg ATTN: AFZA-PW-E Fort Bragg, NC 28310

Managing the Past for the Future



Do you enjoy learning about history? Would you like to know more about archaeology or architecture? Maybe you have knowledge in these fields and would like to contribute to the Cultural Resources Management Program at Fort Bragg? The CRMP conducts public awareness and educational activities including school programs, public lectures, publications, staff rides, exhibits, and a volunteer program. For more information about these opportunities please contact the CRMP at 910-396-6680 or visit www.bragg.army.mil/culturalresources.

#### Answers to Trivia Questions:

- Fort Bragg was established in 1918 as a Field Artillery Training Center.
- Colonel Maxwell Murray was the first commander from September 1918 to May 1919.
- The XVIII Airborne Corps Headquarters was built originally as the Post Hospital in the 1930s. The original headquarter building was across the street, which is now an administrative building.

#### Answers to Matching:

- 1. C
- 2. A
- 3. B